Vestal, NY Student Already offered Appointment to West Point

Washington, DC - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today announced his nominees to the U.S. service academies for the Class of 2015. After a thorough examination process in which his office reviewed numerous applications, Hinchey selected 16 local high school students whom he believes would excel at the U.S. Air Force, Military, Naval and Merchant Marine Academies. West Point Military Academy has already offered an appointment to Joseph "Bobby" Kulp III of Vestal, New York, and Hinchey expects that more nominees will also receive appointments.

"It is a great honor to nominate 16 young men and women from our area to our nation's service academies," Hinchey said. "These young leaders have demonstrated their dedication to community and country. They have excelled in scholastics, physical fitness and extracurricular activities. They represent the best and brightest, and I know that each would serve with honor and distinction. I wish them all the very best with the rest of the application process."

The selection process for the nominees was based on each student's scholastic record, physical fitness, extracurricular activities, professional recommendations and a personal interview. The process is highly competitive and the admissions departments of the service academies make the final decision on acceptance.

The names of Hinchey's nominees, by academy, are as follows:

United States Air Force Academy

Matthew Presutti of Newburgh

Academy Preparatory School

- Valley Central High School, US Air Force

United States Military Academy

Anneliese Antonucci of Poughkeepsie - Poughkeepsie High School

Daniel Crisci of Newburgh -Valley Central High SchoolJoseph Gaynor of Bloomingburg -Pine Bush High SchoolTimothy Goldstone of Accord -Rondout Valley High School

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Jared Jenson of Kingston Joseph "Bobby" Kulp III of Vestal
Military College
Lukas Saul of Ithaca Community College
Kateri Sibley of Windsor
Matthew Webster of Apalachin
Aeronautical University
Christopher Whipple of Neversink

Kingston High School

- Vestal Senior High School, Valley Forge

Ithaca High School, Tompkins Cortland

- Windsor Central High School
- Owego Free Academy, Embry-Riddle
- Tri-Valley Central School

United States Merchant Marine Academy **Padraig Loughlin** of Esopus -

Nile C. Kinnick High School

United States Naval Academy
Christopher Chase of Middletown Luke Miller of Ithaca
Joshua Nysenbaum of Binghamton Megan Rausch of Glen Spey -

Pine Bush High School
- Ithaca High School
Binghamton High School
Home School

Members of the House and Senate may nominate eligible candidates for appointments to the nation's service academies. Senators nominate applicants statewide, while representatives, such as Hinchey, nominate applicants only from the congressional district they represent.

Students who are interested in being nominated by Hinchey in the future should first contact the service academy of their choice during their junior year in high school and then request a nomination from the congressman's office shortly thereafter. The deadline for the Class of 2016 nominations is October 21, 2011. For more information on the application process, students and parents are encouraged to visit Hinchey's website page on academy nominations at http://hinchey.house.gov.